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HOUSE BILL 529

**46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2004**

INTRODUCED BY

Pauline J. Ponce

AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS; ALLOWING SCHOOL DISTRICTS, CHARTER SCHOOLS AND PARTICIPATING ENTITIES TO CONTRIBUTE A GREATER SHARE OF THE COST OF INSURANCE FOR THEIR EMPLOYEES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. Section 22-29-10 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1989, Chapter 373, Section 5, as amended) is amended to read:

"22-29-10. GROUP INSURANCE CONTRIBUTIONS.--

A. Group insurance contributions for school districts, charter schools and participating entities in the authority shall be made as follows:

(1) at least seventy-five percent of the cost of the insurance of an employee whose annual salary is less than fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000);

(2) at least seventy percent of the cost of

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1 the insurance of an employee whose annual salary is fifteen  
2 thousand dollars (\$15,000) or more but less than twenty  
3 thousand dollars (\$20,000);

4 (3) at least sixty-five percent of the cost of  
5 the insurance of an employee whose annual salary is twenty  
6 thousand dollars (\$20,000) or more but less than twenty-five  
7 thousand dollars (\$25,000); or

8 (4) at least sixty percent of the cost of the  
9 insurance of an employee whose annual salary is twenty-five  
10 thousand dollars (\$25,000) or more.

11 B. Within available revenue, school districts,  
12 charter schools and participating entities in the authority may  
13 contribute up to eighty percent of the cost of the insurance of  
14 all employees.

15 ~~[B-]~~ C. Whenever a school district, charter school  
16 or participating entity in the authority offers to its  
17 employees alternative health plan benefit options, including  
18 ~~[but not limited to]~~ health maintenance organizations,  
19 preferred provider organizations or panel doctor plans, the  
20 school district, charter school or participating entity may pay  
21 an amount on behalf of the employee and family member for the  
22 indemnity health insurance plan sufficient to result in equal  
23 employee monthly costs to the cost of the health maintenance  
24 organization plans, preferred provider ~~[organizations]~~  
25 organization plans or panel doctor plans, regardless of the

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1 percentage limitations in the Public School Insurance Authority  
2 Act. School districts, charter schools and participating  
3 entities in the authority may pay up to one hundred percent of  
4 the first fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) of term life  
5 insurance."

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